

LIBRARY
ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

including the Report of the

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year Ending 31st December

1950

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ONGAR RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



To the Chairman and Members of the
Ongar Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1950, on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district.

Vital Statistics.

The birth rate was slightly lower at 17.6 per 1,000 of the population, but this is higher than the birth rate for England and Wales at 15.8 per 1,000 of the population. There were 156 deaths, a death rate of 10.7 per 1,000 population, compared with 11.6 deaths per 1,000 of the population in England and Wales.

With 256 births and 156 deaths there was a natural increase of 100 of the population, but the Registrar General estimated our population at 14,570, an increase of 200 on the 1949 estimate. The difference in the natural increase and the Registrar General's estimate must be explained by immigration.

There were four infant deaths under one year, and the infant death rate was 15.3 per 1,000 live births. The comparable figure for England and Wales was 29.8 per 1,000 live births. There was no maternal death in 1950.

Infectious Diseases.

During 1950 nine new cases of tuberculosis were notified, compared with fifteen new cases in 1949. The disease caused two deaths as in the previous year. Control of tuberculosis by artificial immunisation with Baccille Calmette—Guerin (B.C.G.) has been practised in Scandinavian countries for some years, and during 1950 this method of control has been introduced to Ongar Rural District for persons who are exposed to special risk of infection. A Mass Radiography Unit is expected to visit the district in 1951, when it is hoped to X-ray as many adult chests as possible, and thereby discover unsuspected cases of pulmonary tuberculosis in need of treatment.

No case of diphtheria was notified in 1950. This is very satisfactory, and is probably a result of the intensive immunisation campaign of 1940-48. The National Health Service Act, 1946, transferred the responsibility for Diphtheria Prophylaxis to Essex County Council, and there has been a decline in the number of children reported as immunised. The number of infants vaccinated is also low, and in a few years' time the population will include a large number of susceptible persons and the return of smallpox in epidemic form is possible.

Food Poisoning

An outbreak of a mild type of Food Poisoning occurred in a school when a member of the staff and twenty-four children suffered from a gastro-intestinal upset. All the children had taken a school dinner, and the school meal was suspected.

Examination failed to reveal the bacterial cause of the illness, but inspection of the school kitchen showed that the number of scholars dining at the school had increased considerably, and there had been no corresponding increase in kitchen space. The small congested kitchen was very unsatisfactory, and new arrangements were made.

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Several cases have been considered for possible action under the powers given in this Act (persons living in insanitary conditions).

It was not necessary to take action in any instance as co-operation was obtained. The investigation of these cases suggested that there was a shortage of hospital accommodation for elderly chronic sick. However, further investigation at the hospital revealed that forty elderly patients who were no longer in need of hospital care could not be discharged because they had no homes to go to. If Essex County Council could provide adequate accommodation under Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948, this bottle-neck would be removed.

National Health Service Act, 1946.

With regard to the review of the working arrangements under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the County Council have, so far as possible, adhered to their proposals made as Local Health Authority, and the work over the past year has been conducted on these lines as set out under the various sections of the Act, being expanded so far as this has been possible.

No major difficulties seem to have arisen, and I think a fair summary would be to say that the year's work has been mainly a continuation of existing services.

In concluding my Report, I would like to record my appreciation to the staff of the Public Health Department for their help and co-operation, and to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their support during 1950.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. PATTON,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1950

Chairman : Rev. E. Bennett Rees

Members :

Councillors

H. G. Acres, C.C.	J. H. Gingell	E. G. Roast
T. J. Bellamy	E. Green	F. W. A. Spencer
H. Boulton	D. R. Gunary	W. H. Twynham
F. Bretton, J.P.	Miss M. F. Hadler	J. H. Wainwright
Mrs. G. V. Childs	E. S. Hall	E. C. Wallis
H. E. Clarke	Dr. S. A. M. Hatfield	F. C. Webber
J. T. Coles	E. W. Marsh	F. A. Wheelhouse
P. Connor	N. F. Miles	E. Wood
J. Denholm	J. Osborn	J. R. Woollard
J. S. Filshie	S. Padfield	
Miss G. M. Gillespie	Mrs. D. E. Pepperell	

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. J. L. Patton, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health :

Mrs. I. M. Stock (Joint)

Chief Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. R. S. Shears, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. R. F. S. Musgrave, M.S.I.A.

Clerk :

Miss G. B. Guest.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	47,236
Population Registrar General's estimate, June, 1950	14,570
„ Census 1951 (provisional)	14,862
Number of Inhabited Houses	4,362
Rateable Value	£66,871
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£258
The Rate in the £ of the General Rate was	19s. 10d.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births:				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	117	133	250
Illegitimate	...	...	...	4	2	6
					Total	256

Birth rate per 1,000 of the population : 17.6

Still Births :				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	1	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
					Total	5

Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births : 19.1

				Male	Female	Total
Deaths	...	...	...	80	76	156

(Registrar General's Figures)

Death rate per 1,000 population : 10.7

Deaths of Infants under 1 year :				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	2	2	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	0	0	0
					Total	4

Death rate of infants under 1 year in Ongar ...	15.3
„ „ „ „ „ England and Wales	29.8
(per 1,000 live births)	

Maternal Deaths:				
Puerperal and Post-abortion sepsis	....	....	....	0
Other maternal causes				0
			TOTAL	0

Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years		0
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CAUSES OF DEATH AS GIVEN BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR THE YEAR 1950

				Male	Female	Total
Cerebo-spinal Fever ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Poliomyelitis ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Diabetes ....	....	....	....	0	2	2
Influenza ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Whooping Cough ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	....	....	....	1	1	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease ....	....	....	....	1	0	1
Cancer (all forms) ....	....	....	....	13	14	27
Intracranial vascular lesions ....	....	....	....	7	18	25
Heart Disease ....	....	....	....	27	25	52
Other Diseases of Circulatory System ....	....	....	....	3	2	5
Bronchitis ....	....	....	....	7	1	8
Pneumonia ....	....	....	....	0	4	4
Other Respiratory Diseases ....	....	....	....	1	0	1
Ulcer of the Stomach or Duodenum ....	....	....	....	0	1	1
Digestive Diseases ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Nephritis ....	....	....	....	1	0	1
Congenital malformations and Birth Trauma	....	....	....	0	0	0
Diarrhoea under 2 years ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of prostate ....	....	....	....	5	0	5
Maternal causes ....	....	....	....	0	0	0
Road Traffic Accidents ....	....	....	....	3	0	3
Suicide ....	....	....	....	1	0	1
Other Violent Causes ....	....	....	....	0	1	1
All other causes ....	....	....	....	10	7	17
Totals				80	76	156

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES IN THE YEAR 1950

(Provisional figures based on weekly and quarterly returns)

Rates per 1,000 population.

		England and Wales	126 Co. Bor. and Great Towns includ. London	148 Smaller Towns Residential pop. 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 census	London Adm. County	Ongar Rural Dist.
Births :						
Live Births	15.8	17.6	16.7	17.8	17.6	
Still Births	0.37	0.45	0.38	0.36	0.3	
Deaths :						
All Causes	11.6	12.3	11.6	11.8	10.7	

GENERAL PROVISION OF THE HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

(a) **Laboratory Facilities.** A Ministry of Health Laboratory operates at St. Margaret's Hospital, Epping. Milk, water and ice-cream samples are examined at the Counties Public Health Laboratory, 66, Queen Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

(b) **Hospitals.** The district is served by various hospitals under the Epping, Chelmsford and Brentwood Group Hospital Management Committees.

(c) **Child Welfare.** The Welfare Authority is the Essex County Council. Clinics are held at the following times and places :—

Ongar :	The Congregational Church	2nd and 4th Thursdays in the month, 2 p.m.
Abridge :	The Gymnasium	2nd Wednesday in the month, 2.30 p.m.
Moreton :	The Village Hall	2nd Wednesday in the month, 2 p.m.
Fyfield :	The Village Hall	3rd Wednesday in the month, 2 p.m.
Doddinghurst :	The Village Hall	3rd Tuesday in the month, 2 p.m.
Willingale :	The Village Hall	3rd Thursday in the month, 2 p.m.
Blackmore :	The Baptist Chapel	1st Wednesday in the month, 2 p.m.
Navestock :	The Village Hall	3rd Wednesday in the month, 2 p.m.
Kelvedon Common :	The Village Hall	1st Thursday in the month, 2 p.m.
High Ongar :	The Village Hall	2nd Friday in the month 2 p.m.
Toot Hill :	Parish Room Hall	4th Monday in the month, 2 p.m.
Abbess Roding :	The Village Hall	4th Wednesday in the month, 2 p.m.
Theydon Mount :	The Rectory (weighing centre only)	4th Tuesday in the month 2 p.m.

Diphtheria immunisation is available at any of these clinics.

Home Visiting is carried out by the County Council's Health Visitors in the area.

(d) **School Health Service.** The Education Authority is the Essex County Council. School Nurses inspect the children regularly, and there is a medical inspection at each school not less than once a year.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

				Cases Notified		Deaths
				1949	1950	
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	28	17	0
Measles	....	....	....	61	7	0
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	12	9	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	....	....	....	0	0	0
Erysipelas	....	....	....	2	1	0
Typhoid Fever	....	....	....	1	0	0
Poliomyelitis	....	....	....	7	3	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....	0	0	0
Infective Hepatitis	....	....	....	1	0	0
Food Poisoning	....	....	....	4	26	0
Dysentery	....	....	....	0	1	0
Pneumonia	....	....	....	6	4	4
Tuberculosis (all forms)	....	....	....	15	9	2
Paratyphoid	....	....	....	0	1	0
Influenza	....	....	....	0	0	0

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Water Supply.

The Council undertakes the supply of water to the Parishes of Blackmore, Doddinghurst, Norton Mandeville and Abbess, Beauchamp, and Berners Roothing, purchasing water in bulk from the Herts and Essex Water Co. Ltd., Harlow, the Company supplying the remainder and greater part of the Rural District.

The programme of mains extensions detailed in the 1949 Report were completed during the year under review, and additionally the following mains were also laid :—

Hare Street to the Woodman Public House	
Stanford Rivers	535 yards
Hare Street to Church Lane, Stanford Rivers	100 yards

The total length of new mains therefore was 9.9 miles, making a substantial contribution towards providing a piped supply to the 1,123 houses which the Rural Housing Survey showed were not so provided. Proposals under active consideration for further mains extensions are as follows :—

Herts and Essex Area of Supply

Woolmongers Lane, High Ongar to Stondon Massey	1,023 yards
King Street, High Ongar	2,120 yards
Extensions to Mount Farm, Theydon Mount	250 yards
Four Wantz, Chipping Ongar to Mill Lane, High Ongar	1,650 yards
Toot Hill to Berwicks Farm, Stanford Rivers	2,000 yards
Poppinghouse Lane, Moreton	700 yards

Council's Area of Supply

Extension of ex-Air Ministry 6in. main from High Laver to Abbess Roothing	1,766 yards
Fyfield to Beauchamp and Berners Roothing via Birds Green, Willingale	5,463 yards
Pigstye Green to Rockhills Farm, Willingale	700 yards
Total	15,672 yards

From the foregoing it may therefore be fairly claimed that the Council intend to resolve their duty under Section 28 of the Water Act, 1945, as soon as present circumstances permit. Connections to these mains have been satisfactory following representation, and in suitable cases action under the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 138) as amended by Section 30 of the Water Act, 1945.

(1) (a) Quality has been satisfactory in both areas of supply.

- (b) Quantity. A shortage of water, due to insufficient pressure, occurred in parts of the Parish of Doddinghurst in the early summer. The difficulty, however, was overcome by the installation of a Booster Pump, but the increase in pressure was not such as to warrant the Council reviving its application to the Minister of Health for certain extensions of mains in the Parish in question.

(2)

	Herts & Essex Water Company	District Council
Bacterial examinations of the Raw Water	12	—
Bacterial examinations of the Treated Water	12	4
Chemical examinations of the Treated Water	4	1

The Essex County Council also take samples of the raw water at the Company's Pumping Stations.

The results of a typical Chemical examination are as follows, and the analyst's comments respecting iron and hardness are worthy of note, and whilst the economics of softening are fully appreciated the obvious advantages on all counts should strike a fair overall balance.

Chemical Results Expressed in Parts Per Million

Appearance: Faint opalescence with a few mineral particles.
 Colour: Filtered nil. Odour: Nil. Taste - Turbidity: 4. pH: 7.2.
 Free Carbon Dioxide: 27. Electric Conductivity: 650. Alkalinity as Ca CO₃: 295.

Ca	Mg	Na	Co ₃	SO ₄	Cl	NO ₃	SiO ₂	
100	22.6	17	177	46	26	A	24	Hypothetical Combinations
100			150					Calcium Carbonate 250
	10.9		27					Magnesium Carb .. 38
	11.7			46				Magnesium Sulphate 58
		17			26			Sodium Chloride . 43
							24	Silica .. 24
								Difference .. 7

Total solid constituents dried @ 180° C 420

Hardness—Total : 345. Carbonate : 295. Non-Carbonate : 50.
 Nitrate Nitrogen : 0.0 Nitrite Nitrogen—Absent
 Ammoniacal Nitrogen : 0.30 Oxygen Absorbed : 0.40
 Albuminoid Nitrogen : 0.020 Residual Chlorine—Absent
 Metals—Iron : 0.60 Other Metals—Absent

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Colonies developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in :

1 day @ 37°C	2 days @ 37°C	3 days @ 20°C
0	0	0

	Present In	Absent From	Probable No.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes			
Reaction	... — ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type 1)	... — ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	... — ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.

(Bacteriological sampling bottles are treated to remove residual chlorine if this is present at time of sampling)

This sample has slight opalescence causing noticeable turbidity which is due to the presence of an objectional trace of iron. It is free from other metals.

The water is neutral in reaction, very hard in character though not excessively so, and it contains no excess of salinity or mineral constituents in solution.

It is of very satisfactory organic quality and of the highest standard of bacterial purity.

Iron does not affect wholesomeness, but the amount present is sufficient to merit removal and softening would be advantageous. Apart from these features the results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water, suitable for public supply purposes.

- (3) The water supplied is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.
- (4) Works of maintenance have been carried out to the several public wells and to the Hill Hall, Theydon Mount, piped supply. This latter supply was obsolescent from December, 1950, as the main has been laid.
- (5) The particulars of the number of dwelling houses and the number of population served from public water mains are as follows.

Parish	Direct to Houses	Population Served	By Means of Standpipe	Population Served
Blackmore	201	701	52	173
Bobbingworth	64	224	39	136
Chipping Ongar	249	865	31	108
Doddinghurst	187	641	23	74
Fyfield	63	208	47	157
Greensted	194	679	7	24
High Laver	44	154	42	133
High Ongar (Marden Ash)	273	952	4	14
High Ongar	166	582	43	151
Kelvedon Hatch	83	293	53	182
Lambourne	316	1,091	27	95
Little Laver	5	15	0	0
Moreton	73	249	20	70
Navestock	79	241	55	178
Norton Mandeville	14	48	20	70
Abbess, Berners, Beau- champ Roothing	18	59	9	21
Shelley	91	319	9	31
Stapleford Abbots	144	500	41	143
Stapleford Tawney	15	30	0	0
Stondon Massey	81	359	17	56
Stanford Rivers	129	407	19	63
Thevdon Mount	37	123	2	7
Willingale	64	215	44	154
	2,592	8,955	604	2,040

Total number of premises with mains supply 3,196

Total population served 10,995

SEWERAGE.

The Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Stanford Rivers, Abridge, and Abbess Roothing continue to operate satisfactorily and give excellent results. The Council have prepared a sewage scheme for the village of Moreton, and the Engineer and Surveyor hopes to submit the proposals in 1951.

A scheme for the Matching (High Laver) Area is in the course of preparation.

Negotiations with the Ministry are proceeding for the purchase of the Sewage Works at Willingale, and with the War Department for the acquisition of a Sewage installation used at an Aerodrome for adaption to the general sewerage system in the Parish of Lambourne. Short extensions, to serve premises at Abridge, are also proposed.

FOOD.

Meat. Ministry of Food—Self Suppliers—Pig Scheme.

In 1949, through the co-operation of the Local Food Executive Officer, the owners of pigs slaughtered locally were offered the services of a Meat Inspector from the Department. The response to the Circular letter was encouraging, but in January this Section of the Local Food Office was transferred to Chelmsford, and copies of the weekly returns to the Deputy Meat Agent were no longer available. A simple administrative adjustment would have insured the continuance of a public service and a much needed safeguard. This does reinforce the assertion made last year that there is a case for existing legislation to be amended to require all animals slaughtered for human consumption to be inspected whether or not for sale.

Horseflesh. The slaughterhouse at Crown Park Farm, Stapleford Abbotts, continued to be used for the slaughter of horses for human consumption. The demand for this class of protein will presumably continue whilst the present rationing of butchers' meat operates, but it is to be wondered how long the slaughter of horses at the present annual rate throughout the country can be sustained. The prices of live horses are now such as to make the economics of the business extremely puzzling to say the least.

	Horses	Ponies	Donkey	Foals	Goats	Totals
Number inspected	520	16	16	12	30	594
CONDEMNED						
Whole carcasses ..	4	1	2	—	—	7
Part carcasses						
Hindquarter ..	60 lbs					
Forequarter ..	28 „					
Lungs ..	4	1	2	—	—	
Livers ..	107	1	2	—	—	

Other Food Condemned

Chilled Beef	....	....	....	164 lb.
Hindquarter Beef	....	....	....	54 lb.
Bacon	....	....	....	68 lb.
Fish	....	....	....	44 lb.
Eggs	....	....	....	1,453
Gooseberries in Jars	....	....	....	96 lb.
Canned Fish	....	....	....	70 lb.
Canned Meats	....	....	....	42 lb.
Canned Vegetables	....	....	....	14 lb.
Canned Fruits	....	....	....	15 lb.
Canned Milk	....	....	....	26 lb.

FOOD PREMISES

Following previous surveys of all food shops, 116 routine inspections were made to ensure the maintenance of the upward trend of hygiene in all food handling. Improvements were most marked with regard to the protection of unwrapped food by the provision of glass and the removal of food from counters and other positions where contamination was likely to occur.

Application to the Ministry of Food was made in July, 1950, for the adoption of byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

It is to be hoped that the Report of the Catering Trade Working Party will include a recommendation that all classes of food premises should be registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A marked feature of the continuing inspections of these classes of premises is the freedom from vermin, and in only two cases was treatment under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, necessary.

The following premises are recorded :—

	Restaurant Kitchens	Bakehouses	Fried Fish Shops	Butchers Shops	Wet Fish Shops	Grocers Shops	Ice cream Retailers
Abbees Roothing	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Blackmore	3	1	1	1	1	7	5
Bobbingworth	2	0	0	0	0	1	1
Chipping Ongar	5	2	1	3	2	6	7
Doddingtonhurst	4	0	1	1	1	5	3
Fyfield	1	2	0	0	0	2	2
High Laver	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
High Ongar	2	0	0	1	0	3	1
Kelvedon Hatch	1	0	0	2	0	5	1
Lambourne	6	2	1	1	1	5	3
Moreton	2	2	0	0	0	5	1
Navestock	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Shelley	1	0	0	0	0	3	2
Stapleford Abbots....	5	0	0	0	0	3	4
Stapleford Tawney....	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Stondon Massey	1	0	0	0	0	2	1
Stanford Rivers	1	0	0	0	0	2	2
Willingale	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
	36	9	4	9	5	56	34

ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS, 1947

The collection and transport of samples to the Counties Public Health Laboratories, 66 Victoria Street, London, demands detailed organisation to ensure that time, effort, and expenses are not wasted. The sampling from the itinerant mobile vendors who frequent the area is very difficult, particularly as they nearly always operate after normal business hours.

Twenty-three samples were taken during the year with the following results :

	High Standard	Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Unsatis- factory	
Bacterial Standard	10	4	7	2	= 23
	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	
Ministry of Health provisional grades	10	9	3	1	= 23

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

There are 31 power and 12 non-power factories on the register.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	4	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	31	14	1	Nil
(3) Other premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	43	18	1	Nil

HOUSING ACT, 1936—SECTION II

Two Demolition Orders were made during the year, and, in each case, the premises were demolished and the sites cleared. This action was taken when it was known that the tenants were to be rehoused by the Council, and such liaison is very necessary to ensure that positive action of some kind is taken.

Undertakings were accepted in respect of three dwellings, and, in each case, the premises were reconditioned satisfactorily.

HOUSING ACT, 1949

No bona-fide applications for grants under Section 20 of the Act were received.

A loan under Section 4 of the Act, in respect of Works of Improvement, was granted.

HOUSING DEFECTS

The Public Health Act, 1936, continued to be used in respect of housing defects which constituted nuisances, and Summary proceedings in respect of one defaulter were instituted, and the Court made an Order for determination within a period of six weeks.

SUMMARY OF STATUTORY NOTICES

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936						
	Section 93		Section 45	Section 40	Section 75	Sections 138 and 30 of the Water Act, 1945
	Housing Defects	Other Nuisances				
Served	25	4	1	1	2	21
Outstanding. .	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	—	7

OFFENSIVE TRADES

There is one offensive trade in the Area, that of fat extraction. The completion of a chemical solvent plant in October, 1950, using perchlorethylene as the solvent medium will ensure that this trade will be carried out without offence. On an average, this factory is inspected three times per week, and the efficiency of fly control methods in warm weather can readily be gauged by the number of maggots seen. It is anticipated that the new plant will deal with all raw material without the necessity for storage.

PEA VINING PLANTS

An interesting development was the siting of two plants in the Area by Robert Batchelor & Sons Ltd., one at Berners Hall, Berners Roothing (London Co-operative Society Ltd.) and one at

Asheton Farm, Stapleford Abbotts (Messrs. Gunary & Sons Ltd.). The complete vines are fed into drums, peas graded and washed, and the haulms are silaged. Arising from complaints of river pollution and the investigation by the Essex County Council, it is interesting to record the analyses of the liquor from the ensilage of pea haulms and the waste water from the pea-washing process.

(a) Effluent discharging to ditch from ensilage of pea haulms.

Results expressed in parts per Million

Appearance ....	....	....	....	Brown opaque with a greenish-grey sludge deposit
Colour ....	....	....	....	Brown
Odour ....	....	....	....	Fermenting Liquor
Suspended Matter: Total			....	1545
Suspended Matter Volatile			on	
Ignition ....	....	....	....	1390 pH: 4.5
Chlorine in Chlorides		....	....	2300
Nitrogen in Nitrates		....	....	0.0
Nitrogen in Nitrites		....	....	Absent
Free Ammonia ....	....	....	....	625 = Ammoniacal Nitrogen 514
Albuminoid Ammonia		....	....	2200 = Albuminoid Nitrogen 1800
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours @ 80°F				13640
Oxygen absorbed 3 mins. @ 80°F				2380
Impurity Figure (grains per gall.)				—
Strength Royal Commission		....		—
Biological Oxygen Demand		....		Greater than 18,000

Report—This sample has a very high content of suspended matter and of free ammonia. Its strength, as indicated by the oxygen absorbed and Biological Oxygen Demand, is roughly a hundred times that of untreated domestic sewage.

It is therefore a liquor of very grossly polluting character.

(b) Effluent discharging to ditch from pea-washing plant.

Results expressed in parts per Million

Appearance ....	....	....	....	Greyish opalescence with a grey green sludge
Colour ....	....	....	....	Grey
Odour ....	....	....	....	Resembles pea pods
Suspended Matter : Total			....	316
Suspended Matter Volatile			on	
Ignition ....	....	....	....	110 pH : 6.0
Chlorine in Chlorides		....	....	38
Nitrogen in Nitrates		....	....	0.0
Nitrogen in Nitrites		....	....	Absent
Free Ammonia ....	....	....	....	2.0 = Ammoniacal Nitrogen 1.7
Albuminoid Ammonia		....	....	14 = Albuminoid Nitrogen 12
Oxygen absorbed 4 hours @ 80°F				139
Oxygen absorbed 3 mins. @ 80°F				25
Impurity Figure (grains per gall.)				—
Strength Royal Commission			....	—
Biological Oxygen Demand			....	560

Report—The content of suspended matter of this sample, its oxygen absorbed, and its Biological Oxygen Demand are comparable with those of an untreated domestic sewage. It is therefore a grossly polluting liquor.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION SERVICE

The collection of household refuse covers the whole Area.

A weekly collection serves 1,603 dwellings, and a population of 4,703 or approximately one-third of the dwellings and population representing the “urbanised” parts of the Area. Whilst there is a need for a more frequent service in some of the remaining parishes, the present man-power and vehicle position, and the steadily increasing number of new dwellings, do not allow. The sickness rate of personnel, a total of 47 working days, was somewhat below average. The usual difficulties over recruitment to the service was experienced

and the age of the present "regulars" is a rather disturbing thought. The onus for the provision of dustbins was again considered by the Council, but the only satisfactory solution was considered to be too heavy a burden.

Tipping

In April, the Stondon Hall Refuse Tip Site was commenced, and the two gravel pits of a total area of 3.3 acres should provide tipping space for a period of four years. No complaints of the operations have been made by the occupiers of the Farm Cottages adjoining the tip, and at one period tipping was carried out within 30ft. of the dwellings. A Bull-Dozer was used to clear and prepare the site.

Salvage

The economics of paper salvage were considered early in the year, and fortunately it was agreed to continue to collect as the rise in paper prices in October, 1950, reversed previous trends. There should always be a market for waste paper, and an economic price for it. The amounts collected and value are as follows:—

				Tons	Cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	....	....	....	68	4	0	531	15	8
Textiles	....	....	....	2	8	81	64	3	9
Bones	....	....	....		18	79	5	8	7
Metals	....	....	....	6	7	28	40	6	0
Miscellaneous	....	....	....					4	4
				77	18	79	£642	18	4

The net cost of the Public Cleansing and Salvage Services for the financial year, 1st April, 1950, to 31st March, 1951, was:—

£3,687 0s. 3d.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Infectious Diseases

Enquiries in cases of Infectious Disease 23

Public Health Act, 1936

Water Supplies	....	....	....	....	542
Sewerage and Drainage	....	....	....	....	63
Piggeries	....	....	....	....	17
Moveable Dwellings	....	....	....	....	18
Moveable Dwelling Sites	....	....	....	....	63
Refuse Collection and Disposal	....	....	....	....	345
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	....	120
Nuisances	....	....	....	....	192
Re-inspections to secure abatement of nuisances	....	....	....	....	288

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	120
Bakehouses	....	....	....	....	9
Fish Shops	....	....	....	....	13
Dairies	....	....	....	....	13
Ice-Cream Premises	....	....	....	....	57
Sections 9 and 13	....	....	....	....	98
Butchers' Shops	....	....	....	....	18
Other Food Shops	....	....	....	....	90
Enquiries <i>re</i> Food Poisoning	....	....	....	....	16

Miscellaneous

Visits <i>re</i> Petroleum Acts and Orders	....	....	....	....	9
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	....	....	....	....	310
Schools	....	....	....	....	16
Rivers Pollution	....	....	....	....	20
Factories Act, 1937	....	....	....	....	25
Unclassified	....	....	....	....	40
National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 50	....	....	....	....	4

Public Health Act, 1936, and Housing Acts, 1936/49

Total number of dwelling houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	....	....	....	....	273
Total number of inspections for the purpose					436
Housing Act, 1949					15
Overcrowding					14

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